

the same kind of satisfaction—because by showing others the horrors of this war against the innocent, he has struck a blow against the worldwide scourge of land mines. But more must be done.

I commend Kevin Wallevand, and the others who worked on this story at WDAY, for bringing this tragedy to the attention of others. Landmines are a worldwide problem, but with a very simple solution. We must rid the world of landmines and promise future generations that this weapon of destruction will never be used again for warfare. In sharing this Emmy winning story, Kevin's work heightens our awareness of the problem and brings us a step closer to that ultimate goal. Congratulations to Kevin Wallevand. You make North Dakotans very proud.

#### RURAL SATELLITE SUBSCRIBERS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to raise an issue that my colleagues may have heard about, the recent decision by an arbitration panel convened under the auspices of the Copyright Office in the Library of Congress regarding the rates satellite carriers will pay under the satellite copyright compulsory license. The panel, in attempting to set a fair market value of the retransmission of broadcast signals, has decided to raise those rates and has made the new rate effective July 1, 1997. The arbitration panel's decision is currently on appeal to the Librarian of Congress who is empowered to review the decision. The standard of review is limited to one of arbitrariness or contrariness to law. The Librarian's decision will be announced next Tuesday, October 28. At that point, the Librarian's decision is subject to appeal to the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The decision to raise the rates and especially its retroactive effective date has raised objections by the satellite carriers. Obviously, copyright owners disagree with the satellite carriers. My colleagues may be contacted by one side or the other of this dispute in the coming weeks or months.

My colleagues should know that as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the committee of jurisdiction over copyright matters generally, and the Satellite Home Viewers Act in particular, I have begun a review of the satellite and cable licenses. Earlier this year I asked the Copyright Office to conduct in depth public hearings and make a comprehensive report to the Judiciary Committee on the licenses, together with recommendations for reforms. The Judiciary Committee is now reviewing these recommendations.

As we make our review of the compulsory licenses, I believe we need to keep in mind the needs of rural families. The Satellite Home Viewers Act was originally intended in 1988 to ensure that households that could not get television in any other way, such as traditional broadcast or cable, would

be able to get television signals via satellite.

The market has changed substantially since 1988, and those changes have led to many of the controversies that currently surround the act. Many are looking to satellite carriers to compete directly with cable companies for viewership. But as we consider reforms to make the license work better in the current marketplace, we need to consider carefully the impact on the original beneficiaries, rural folks who are otherwise beyond the reach of traditional television signals.

I come from a state that has a fine broadcast industry that invests its energy and capital in trying to reach as many viewers as it can in our mountainous State of Utah. But there are some Utahans, or others in similar rural States, who appear to be simply beyond the reach of broadcast transmitters and translators, despite the best efforts of our broadcasters. As the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, I hope to find a fair way of helping the greatest number of Utahans have the greatest amount of choice in television entertainment. Obviously this means balancing a number of interests, since consumer choice will be curtailed if any segment of the industry is disadvantaged too much to support the other segments. We need to try to get a system that will be consumer-friendly, fair to creators and copyright holders to encourage them to continue to produce quality entertainment, and that makes for a competitive environment that will lower prices and increase choices. As we do this, we need to remember the original purpose of the satellite license, which is to make television available to those who cannot otherwise get it.

I believe many of my colleagues on the committee and in the Senate share my views, particularly my good friend, the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, Senator LEAHY. Mr. President, I would ask the distinguished ranking member if he shares my concerns about rural satellite viewers, as well as the other affected interests in this industry?

Mr. LEAHY. I thank Senator HATCH for his comments. I am also very concerned about rural areas in my home State of Vermont and about the needs of rural satellite viewers throughout the country.

Mr. HATCH. I thank my colleague. Mr. President, I would ask my colleague from Vermont if he will work with me and the other members of the Judiciary Committee to help ensure that we keep the needs of rural satellite viewers in mind as we consider reforms to the compulsory licenses?

Mr. LEAHY. I look forward to working with you and the rest of the committee on these important issues.

Mr. HATCH. I thank my colleague, and I invite my colleagues in the Senate to work with me and with the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee as we review the compulsory li-

censes to ensure the best situation for all our constituents.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:25 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2646. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes.

A message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2107) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 2646. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 1313. A bill to provide market transition assistance to quota owners, tobacco producers, and communities that are dependent on tobacco production, to phase out Federal programs that support tobacco production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. FAIRCLOTH):

S. 1314. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that married couples may file a combined return under which